Patent Claims

WHAT IS CLAIMED, IS

1. Method for bit-rate saving encoding of audio signals
   using a psychoacoustic model, comprising the steps of:
       performing a Fourier Transformation with a length
   of L samples for calculation of a minimum masking
   threshold by calculating k subtransformations over 2^N
   samples with $k*2^N=L$;
       fitting together the results of the k
   subtransformations;
       arranging L samples of the audio signal in a frame
   for transmission.

2. Method according to claim 1, **wherein** the number k of
   subtransformations is not a power of 2.

3. Method according to claim 1, **wherein** before fitting
   together the results of the k subtransformations, these
   are multiplied with phase correction factors.

4. Method according to any of claims 1, **wherein** the
   Fourier Transformation is performed within the
   algorithm for the psychoacoustic model 2 of MPEG I
   Audio Layer II and wherein the frame length L is 1152
   samples.

5. Method according to claim 4, **wherein** k=9
   subtransformations with a length of $M=2^N = 128$ samples
   are calculated.

6. Encoder for performing the method according to claim 1.